

BND violated Israel ban — Spiegel

HAMBURG (R) — The German secret service (BND) violated an explicit decision by the government's security council by trying to ship military hardware to Israel, the news magazine *Der Spiegel* reported Saturday. The magazine said that in February the security council — comprising security experts from the chancellery and the foreign and defence ministries — discussed an Israeli request for a Soviet air defence system, but expressed reservations about sending it either tanks or the SA-6 defence system. In March, the head of the security council informed the Israeli embassy and the German defence ministry of the decision to reject the request, *Spiegel* said. Nevertheless, the BND went ahead with plans to send the equipment and never told police or customs authorities about the secret delivery, the magazine said. Last week, officials in Hamburg seized a shipment of vehicles bound for Israel. The Soviet-built hardware, requested by Israel's Mossad secret service for testing, was supplied from stocks of the East German military, disbanded when Germany united last year, government officials here have said. The military trucks and air defence hardware were declared as "agricultural goods."



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2 killed, 4 injured in Belfast blast

BELFAST (R) — Two people were killed and at least four injured when an Irish guerrilla bomb blast ripped through the military wing of a Belfast hospital Saturday. The explosion devastated the hospital where British soldiers and police injured in the fight against Irish Republican Army (IRA) guerrillas are treated. The IRA said in a call to a Belfast radio station that it was responsible for the explosion. A hospital spokesman said two people were killed and four, including a child, were injured. Witnesses said they believed several more people may have been hurt. Fire crews rushed from all over Belfast to the scene of devastation but rescuers had to be held back at one stage for fear of a ruptured gas pipe. The hospital is kept under tight security to prevent guerrilla attacks by the IRA with a perimeter fence surrounding the military wing.

Georgia halts registration of parties

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet Georgia, in a step apparently aimed against fledgling opposition movements, has halted the registration of new political parties, a local journalist said Saturday. He said the Georgian parliament voted Friday to suspend a law it passed in August allowing new parties to register. The suspension, prompted by a request from the Georgian prosecutor's office, appeared directed against the National Independence Party and National Democratic Party, both fierce opponents of President Zviad Gamsakhurdia. The opposition has been locked in a trial of strength with Mr. Gamsakhurdia for the past two months, accusing him of acting like a dictator and trampling on the rights of ethnic minorities.

Moroccan students to stand trial

RABAT (R) — Dozens of leftist and Muslim fundamentalist Moroccan university students will stand trial next week after clashes in which more than 40 people were seriously hurt, lawyers said Saturday. A total of 20 students from the leftist Kairidine movement and supporters of the outlawed Adl Wal Ihsan Muslim fundamentalist movement had been charged with disturbing the peace and assault in Oujda, they added. A further, 26 had been charged in Fez, home of Morocco's largest university with 80,000 students, they said. Fifteen hospitalised students also risked being brought to court (see page 2).

Sudanese leader in Libya

NICOSIA (R) — Sudan's military leader Omar Hassan Al Bashir arrived in Tripoli Saturday for talks with Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi on the Middle East peace conference, opposed by both countries. "The visit fails in the framework of continued consultations ... particularly given the current critical period which the Arab Nation is going through," the Libyan news agency JANA quoted Lieutenant-General Bashir as saying on arrival. Several anti-Madrid peace conference demonstrations were held in Libya and Sudan in the past three days. JANA said Colonel Abu Bakr Younis Jaber, a member of Libya's Revolution Command Council, greeted Gen. Bashir at Tripoli airport. Libya and Sudan signed an integration agreement in March 1990 to prepare for a full merger of the two countries by 1994.

Greek premier leaves Turkey

ISTANBUL (R) — Greek Prime Minister Constantine Mitsotakis left Istanbul Saturday after an eight-hour visit to attend the enthronement of Bartholomew I as patriarch of the world's 250 million Eastern Orthodox Christians. Mr. Mitsotakis headed a 130-strong delegation of ministers, members of parliament and senior officials. The patriarchate has been based in Istanbul for 1,500 years. Bartholomew was elected on Oct. 22 to succeed Dimitrios I, who died on Oct. 3 (see page 2).

Bilateral talks begin in Madrid today

Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to meet Israeli team; snags remain over Syrian-Israeli talks but prospects good

Focus of joint team's discussions today to be venue for further talks

Special from Madrid

A JOINT JORDANIAN-PALESTINIAN delegation meets with an Israeli team Sunday in the second phase of the Middle East peace process launched with a three-day conference which adjourned Friday but last-minute snags remained over bilateral Syrian-Israeli talks.

The delegation, which will have five Jordanians and five Palestinians and headed by Abdul Salam Majali, will meet with a five-member Israeli team at the Palacio de Parcen and the first item on the agenda is expected to be the finalisation of a venue for bilateral talks to deal with the essential elements of the Arab-Israeli conflict in their various dimensions.

In addition to Dr. Majali, the Jordanian team will comprise Awad Al Khalid, Abdul Hafez M'rake, Walid Khalid and Mohammad Adwan. The composition of the Palestinian or

Israeli delegation was not immediately known.

The meeting will mostly focus on a venue for holding the separate bilateral talks between the Jordanian side of the delegation and Israelis and the Palestinian side and Israelis.

The joint delegation will split into Jordanian and Palestinian sides after the first round of talks, but a Palestinian delegate will be included in the Jordanian side and vice-versa.

Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharaa was meeting Dr. Majali late Saturday for coordination ahead of Sunday's meeting amid reports that he had left the Spanish capital amid a finger-pointing conflict over the venue for Syrian-Israeli bilateral talks.

Israel, in a bid to secure what it sees as another inch of legitimacy in the Arab eyes, is insisting on the talks switch to the Middle East, rotating between the concerned Arab state and the Jewish state. The Arabs are resisting this

approach, saying that the talks should be held in a neutral venue prior to reaching specific agreements on the basic issues at stake.

Hopes were high that the Syrian-Israeli conflict over venue would be settled Saturday night and the two sides could meet Sunday. Spanish officials said they had set aside part of their foreign ministry to host the talks.

A technical institute in the heart of Madrid has been designated for the Lebanese-Israeli talks.

The U.S. has said that the bilateral talks should begin within 10 days after adjournment of the peace conference.

U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, who is scheduled to leave Madrid Sunday, was playing golf Saturday but his senior aides were closely involved in trying to sort out the Syrian-Israeli dispute over venue for talks.

Another Syrian position opposed by the Israelis is that all the separate bilateral talks be

held at the same building so that the Arab sides could coordinate. The Israeli reasons were apparent in remarks by Deputy Foreign Minister Benjamin Netanyahu that the Arabs were unlikely to make concessions if they were allowed to consult each other during the negotiations.

"You will only get the lowest common denominator, and I mean the lowest," he told reporters.

Informed sources said Cairo was losing its bid to host the four separate sets of bilateral talks — Jordanian-Israeli, Palestinian-Israeli, Syrian-Israeli and Lebanon-Israeli — as the Arab sides remained firm on their position.

Syria was also not very enthusiastic about Washington as the venue, apparently because of fears that the powerful pro-Israeli lobby in the U.S. could influence the course and outcomes of the discussions.

Other suggested compromise

venues include Rhodes and Cyprus, according to sources.

The Arab sides are also anxious not to let go of Madrid, particularly that they believe in the continuity of the process that was kicked off Wednesday, when the historic peace conference was opened in the Spanish capital, and that the peace conference, co-sponsored by the U.S. and the Soviet Union, could be reconvened by consensus.

The Palestinian side will discuss with their Israeli interlocutors all aspects of the Palestinian dimension of the Arab-Israeli conflict, while the Jordanian side will focus on the Jordanian dimension.

Unconfirmed reports said Faisal Husseini and Hanan Ashrawi, head and member respectively of a Palestinian "guidance committee," had left for Morocco for a meeting with Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat.

Mr. Husseini who is also over-



Abdul Salam Majali



Haider Abdul Shafi

all head of the Palestinian side of the joint delegation, and Dr. Ashrawi had been excluded from the negotiations, but are directing the actual negotiating team.

"The first issue to be discussed Sunday will be the venue for holding the bilateral talks," Dr. Majali told the Jordan Television.

"We'd rather have Madrid as the venue for reasons known by everybody, but we have no objection to moving the talks to any neutral capital, whether in Europe or elsewhere," he said.

"The venue might be changed again after the talks start," he said.

PLO suggests Arab summit

TUNIS (Agencies) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has proposed that an Arab summit be held soon to assess the Middle East peace process following the Madrid conference, Tunisia's official TAP news agency reported Saturday.

Citing a statement by PLO Executive Committee member Yasser Abed Rabbo, TAP said the summit would involve Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and the PLO, with Saudi Arabia representing the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and Morocco representing the Arab Maghreb Union (AMU).

Arab foreign ministers met in Damascus to coordinate strategy before the Madrid conference opened last Wednesday.

Mr. Abed Rabbo said the proposed meeting had been favourably received by the eventual participants and added that it would not preclude an eventual full Arab summit.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat urged the Arab countries to take a united stand against what he called "Israeli intransigence."

"The Palestinian cause is going into a crucial stage marked by a media, political and diplomatic battle," Mr. Arafat told journalists after a meeting with Tunisian President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali.

"Arab countries must come together to install a just and global peace and to establish a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital," Mr. Arafat said.

The joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation meeting with Israeli negotiators Sunday will again urge an end to the building of Jewish settlements in the occupied territories, Mr. Abed Rabbo said.

"There can be no bargaining about this," Mr. Abed Rabbo said. "It should be debated before any agreement about an agenda."

Mr. Abed Rabbo called for the end of "repressive practices" by Israel in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, freedom for Palestinian prisoners, and the withdrawal of Israel from the occupied territories.

Palestinian negotiators will propose that the occupied territories be put under international supervision for one year before coming under Palestinian sovereignty, he said.

Mr. Arafat chaired a meeting of the PLO Executive Council

(Continued on page 5)

Israeli politicians pessimistic

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel's right-wing agriculture minister and a leader of the opposition Labour Party had little hope Saturday for the Middle East peace talks.

The two spoke as disagreement was reported from Madrid over whether to return to the bargaining-table with Israel to discuss arrangements for keeping the Middle East peace talks going.

Syrian spokesman Zuheir Jenane said he could not comment on reports that Syria would follow a Lebanese and a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegations in holding separate Sunday meetings with Israel in Madrid.

U.S. officials and some Arab officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Washington could be offered as a compromise locale if the parties cannot agree to stay in Madrid.

The head of Israel's government press office, Yossi Olmert, speaking to Israeli army radio from Madrid, said he was beginning to doubt Syria's readiness to participate in the peace talks.

"If there is really Syrian readiness to go through with this process as agreed on beforehand, this looks to me today much less clear than it did, than I hoped it would look even three days ago," Mr. Olmert said.

Agriculture Minister Rafael Eytan, head of the right-wing Likud Party, asserted that the Arabs proved in their speeches "that they have no honest intentions for peace" and called any hope of the conference leading to peace an "illusion."

"They (the Arabs) have no intention of negotiating in order to achieve something and I don't think the Americans will be able to force them to change their positions," he said.

On the other hand, if the Americans pressure Israel to make concessions "then they will use pressure, but if as a result of their pressure there is a move towards the radical Arab readiness to participate in the peace talks, then I see difficulty in this issue and doubt there will be progress."

"If the present government wants to progress towards peace where they can, they must first start with the Palestinians and try to detach any connections between the Syrian issue and the Palestinian one," Mr. Rabin added on Israeli army radio.

But Mr. Rabin said he had no real hopes that peace would be achieved.

Syria keeps Israel guessing

MADRID (Agencies) — Syria, accusing Israel of demanding everything for nothing, kept the Israelis guessing Saturday on when it would meet them face-to-face for the first direct peace talks between the Middle East's most inimicable foes.

Syrian spokesman Zuheir Jenane said he could not comment on reports that Syria would follow a Lebanese and a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegations in holding separate Sunday meetings with Israel in Madrid.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak told reporters in Egypt Saturday that he believed the bilateral talks would begin on schedule Sunday in Madrid, and predicted they would continue later in the United States.

U.S. officials and some Arab officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Washington could be offered as a compromise locale if the parties cannot agree to stay in Madrid.

Palestinian delegates said they thought the Syrians would eventually meet the Israelis Sunday, as envisaged in the U.S.-Soviet invitation to the Madrid conference.

Syria's reluctance to give a straight "yes" was part of a game of brinkmanship exacerbated by the bitter exchange of words between Syria and Israel at the conference on Friday, they said.

If they miss Sunday, the peace process could be derailed. The Israeli delegates plan to leave on

Monday.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir started the trade by describing the Syrian government as "one of the most oppressive, tyrannical regimes in the world."

Mr. Shamir retorted by showing the conference a 1947 "wanted" poster of Mr. Shamir, sought by British authorities in Mandated Palestine in connection with assassinations and acts of violence by the extremist Stern Gang headed by Mr. Shamir.

The Syrian government newspaper Tishreen said Saturday Israel was trying to undermine the peace process by stripping the talks of substance.

"He (Mr. Shamir) was insolent enough to demand everything without even pledging to give anything in return. He wants security, land and peace, and he asks the Arabs to be content with capitulation," it added.

If Israel persisted, the United States and the Soviet Union, co-sponsors of the Madrid conference, should hold the Jewish state responsible for wasting a "historic opportunity," it said.

U.S. Secretary of State James Baker has tried to minimise the damage from Friday's bitter clashes.

He has been trying to bring the Arabs and Israelis to agreement

(Continued on page 3)

Fears of Israeli attack grow in South Lebanon

KFAR RUMMAN, Lebanon (Agencies) — Israel shelled South Lebanon for a fifth consecutive day and expelled residents from a village Saturday, stoking fears that it was planning to break out of its self-declared border "security zone" and attack resistance fighters.

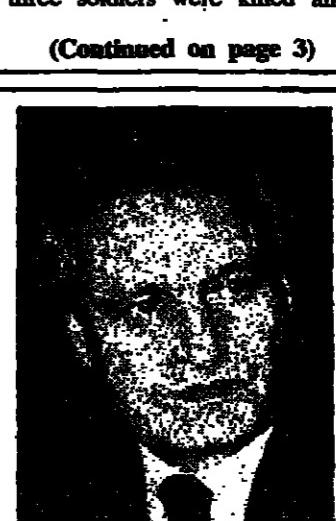
Israeli soldiers using loudspeakers ordered residents of the southern village of Kfar Rumman two kilometres west of the panic-stricken village to flee (see page 2).

Muslim fundamentalist sources said Israeli helicopters dropped leaflets in the nearby southern market town of Nabatiyah, asking civilians and the Lebanese army to leave.

As the rumble of Israeli tanks echoed through the hills on the edge of the "security zone" Lebanon's government urged the United States to pressure the Jewish state to stop its attacks.

"An atmosphere of war is hanging over South Lebanon after the Israeli warning and bombardment," a security source said.

In Beirut, President Elias Hrawi called army chiefs for emergency talks to discuss developments in the south. The Lebanese army moved up tanks and reinforced troops at eastern



Farouq Al Sharaa

Arab nationalist perspective, but it also has its own priorities and system of thinking," said the lawyer referring to Israel's occupation of Syria's Golan Heights.

According to Mr. Hikmat, Syria could have been trying to regain "its stature to fill in the fictional slot as the leader of the Arab World," but said that the fact that Syria has a lot at stake in the conflict with Israel could be an overriding factor in its stand at Madrid.

Although the objective of the conference is not to score points or to debate the rights and wrongs of any side involved in the Middle East conflict, said the analyst, there cannot be any escape from the fact that Syria was left with no choice but to respond in kind when Mr. Shamir accused it of being "one of the most tyrannical regimes in the world."

"For many leftists and Arab nationalists who were disenchanted with the Syrian decision to join the anti-Iraq

(Continued on page 5)

Syrian performance in Madrid seen as major morale booster for Arabs

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The hardline but diplomatic approach Syria adopted at the Madrid peace conference in presenting its case and the vehemence with which it retaliated to the barbed attack from Israel are widely seen in Jordan as a big boost to Arab morale in the first all-round Arab-Israeli peace talks.

The firm demand that Israel return every inch of occupied territory and recognise the national rights of the Palestinian people as part of any peace settlement between the Arabs and the Jewish state has heartened many an Arab nationalist in Jordan and influenced many others who had been predicting a meek

Israel ousts residents from Lebanese village

KFAR RUMMAN, Lebanon (AP) — The Israeli military ordered the Lebanese army and residents of this southern village to abandon it Saturday amidst escalating hostilities that coincided with the Middle East peace talks.

Using loud speakers and machine-gum fire, Israeli gunners ordered all 10,000 residents of Kfar Rumman out within 12 hours.

The army command in Beirut said its 50-man force would not withdraw from Kfar Rumman, which lies outside the southern strip of Lebanon that Israel has occupied since its 1982 invasion.

No reason was given for the expulsion. First notice came at 10:30 a.m. (0630 GMT), when Israeli gunners manning an outpost on the hill next to the village sounded air raid sirens for 15 minutes.

Residents of Kfar Rumman, just north of the market town of Nabatiyeh, gathered in the main square near the mosque to find out what was happening.

The sirens were switched off and loudspeakers from the Israeli outposts blared orders to leave.

"To citizens of Kfar Rumman. The Israeli defence forces order you to evacuate your village along with Lebanese army elements deployed in it within 12 minutes," the statement said in Arabic.

The statement was repeated twice and then the Israelis opened up with machineguns, causing a wave of panic but no injuries.

Hundreds of Kfar Rumman's residents loaded clothes, mattresses and other household goods into cars and fled.

The Lebanese army force de-

Iranian quoted as recanting on Bush role in 'October surprise'

WASHINGTON (AP) — Iran's former President Abol Hassan Bani-Sadr has taken back his charge that George Bush attended a meeting called to delay release of U.S. hostages in Iran until after the 1980 elections, a magazine says.

The exiled leader now says he no longer thinks Mr. Bush was on hand for such a meeting in Paris, according to an article set to appear in the Nov. 10 issue of the New Republic.

Excerpts were released Friday. The former Iranian president has said in a 1988 interview in Playboy magazine that Mr. Bush who was then running for vice-president led the American side in secret Paris meetings with officials from Tehran in October 1980.

Mr. Bush has denied being in the French capital at the time.

The article quoted Mr. Bani-Sadr in an interview at his home outside Paris as saying: "I re-

Palestinian, Jews attending convention urge moderation

BALTIMORE (AP) — An Arab-American leader appearing at a Jewish convention Friday appealed for moderation in the Middle East and found an ally in a Rabbi who said Israel was acting immorally in its treatment of Palestinians.

"The sealing of homes, the death and injury of children who have nothing to do with rock throwing is not the Jewish way," said Rabbi Robert Samuels of Haifa, Israel. He referred to Israeli reaction to the Palestinian uprising against the occupation of Arab lands.

"We are using power in non-Jewish ways," he said.

Khalil Jahshan, executive director of the National Association of Arab Americans, appeared with Rabbi Samuels and two other rabbis at a work-

shop at the 61st General Assembly of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC).

The group represents 846 reform synagogues in the United States and Canada, and is one of the largest Jewish groups in the country.

Reform Jews don't adhere as strictly to Jewish law as do more conservative sects.

Mr. Jahshan said the Palestinian position has changed since the 1960s, and there is now a large moderate Palestinian sector that supports a Palestinian state coexisting peacefully with Israel.

"There is a big gap of misunderstanding of Palestinian yearning for its own state," said Mr. Jahshan, a Palestinian who grew up in Israel. "There has been a dynamic through which this conflict has been travelling. It's very important to keep that in mind."

Mr. Samuels, a member of an Israeli group called clergy for peace, said 35 to 40 per cent of Israelis are moderates who seek peace through compromise.

"What we need to do is develop a politically moderate center which will include part of the right and most of the left, which will then be a majority," Mr. Samuels said. "That will be a new stage in the dynamic."

The other rabbis at the workshop also urged compromise. But they said they were wary of what they called the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) past record.

"Is the PLO really to be trusted when it signs on the dotted line for peace?" asked Rabbi Michael Stroh of Thornhill,

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 625343, Tel. 625343.

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 771331.

A'sa de la confection des jeans

L'ecole des fous

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Carnet de notes

News in Hebrew

News in Arabic

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Princess Basma tours Irbid Governorate

IRBID (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Saturday toured a guide gathering organised by the Department of Education in the Irbid region and urged the participants to intensify voluntary work through the scout movement.

The Princess inspected the activities of the participants gathered at one of the forest regions in the Taybeh District within the Irbid Governorate.

The Princess was briefed on the works of the participants, especially in dress making, bookbinding, weaving and first aid services, and she told the female guides that voluntary work was bound to foster the sense of national belonging and deepen the values of society. The Princess expressed appreciation for the organisers' efforts and the various concerned government and private departments which contributed to the camp's activities.

The Princess was briefed by the director of education on the types of activities carried out at the camp and said that the ministry of education's plans encourages team work and the concept of voluntary services. Princess Basma watched folkloric performances and distributed badges to the leaders of the guides.

Before visiting the camp, the Princess visited the Fatimah Al Zahra Comprehensive School for Girls in Irbid and opened an annual exhibition organised to mark His Majesty King Hussein's birthday this month.

Samples of the girls' works in painting, ceramics, needlework and handicrafts were displayed at the exhibition.

Princess Basma's next stop was at a school in Sooum where she inspected educational and extra-curricular activities. She was accompanied on the tour in northern Jordan by Education Minister Eid Dahiyah and local government officials.

The Princess was briefed by the

Agency lends JD 1.3 million to help farmers

AMMAN (Petra) — The Agricultural Credit Corporation's (ACC) Amman branch has extended loans worth JD 1.3 million in the first 10 months of 1991, according to the branch director Ahmad Abu Sil.

Mr. Abu Sil said the loans will be used by farmers in the reclamation of lands, digging artesian wells, purchasing agricultural equipment and establishing agricultural projects.

He said the Amman branch is still receiving applications from farmers who want to get financing for their agricultural projects.

The ACC board of directors, Mr. Abu Sil said, has decided that the corporation pay part of the interest rates on the farmers' debts to support the agricultural

sector in the Kingdom.

The corporation, he added, will be paying a percentage of the farmers' interest rates provided that the total value will not exceed JD 1,000 for loans which were extended in 1981 and were not paid back until Aug. 31, 1991.

Loans which were granted since November 1981 and were paid back before Aug. 31, 1991 will also be exempted from parts of the interest rates to encourage farmers and to reward them for paying back their loans on time.

He said the ACC will exempt farmers who got loans before November 1981 and did not pay back the whole sum from percentages of the interest rates less than the above mentioned two groups.

Seminar to discuss ways of improving quality of Jordanian products

AMMAN (Petra) — Japan's successful industrial experiment with the participation of 21 officials and responsible directors of quality of manufactured products in a number of Jordanian industrial companies, is the focus of a five-day seminar organised by the Amman Chamber of Industry.

Japan's experiment in improving the quality of its products and various incentives offered to workers which helped Japan to attain industrial progress will be studied in-depth by the seminar, which started Saturday, according to Chamber President Khalid Abu Hassan.

Quality products is a national demand because products of high quality enable Jordan to compete with other countries in the international markets, said Mr. Abu

Hassan at the opening session.

The Chamber of Industry is willing to do all in its power to develop the national industry and to help upgrade quality, he said. A sense of responsibility on the part of the workers and the factory owners is essential to achieve success in industrial schemes, he said.

The participants in the seminar will discuss the design and management of quality control of products and will study cases and experiments of successful industrial countries.

According to Dr. Mohammad Salameh Halaiqah, the chamber's director general, the meetings are designed to improve the quality of Jordanian commodities with a view to enabling them to compete in foreign markets.

Universities in occupied territories to receive support from AAU

AMMAN (Petra) — The Association of Arab Universities (AAU), which held its annual council meeting in Qatar, has decided to revive the work of a special fund to offer financial support to the universities in the occupied Arab territories, according to AAU Secretary General Mohammad Faraj Dugheim.

The council meeting in Doha, Qatar, which lasted six days, decided that the Arab universities under occupation should be offered all possible backing and assistance to enable them to resist Israel's repressive measures and occupation, said Dr. Dugheim upon returning to Amman from the meeting Saturday.

The meeting, which was attended by representatives of Arab universities including those in Israeli-held Arab lands, elected a new AAU secretary general for the coming four years, Dr. Dugheim said. He said that the new secretary general, who

will assume his position early next year, is Dr. Ihab Ismail. He will be assisted by Dr. Mohammad Adnan Souman and Dr. Ibrahim Shihadeh Al Khawaja.

The council decided at the meeting to recognise Sultan Qaboos University of Oman and the "Seventh of April" university of Libya and to admit them as full AAU members.

The AAU also decided to create a special information translation and publishing unit to offer services to Arab universities and to help in unifying terms used in these institutions.

According to Dr. Dugheim, the AAU council accepted an offer by the Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) to hold the next council's meetings on its premises in the coming year.

According to Dr. Dugheim, representatives of 62 Arab universities and Arab, regional and international organisations attended the Doha meeting.

Home News in Brief

Excavation uncovers mosque

AMMAN (Petra) — Excavation works carried out by the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs' Antiquities Department has uncovered "Listib Mosque" which was built west of the city of Ajloun in the Ayyubide-Mamlouki era.

Symposium to begin Monday

AMMAN (Petra) — A symposium on "Technical Cooperation Between Developing Countries in the Field of Developing Pharmaceutical Industries" will open Monday at the Arab Company for Drug Industries and Medical Appliances. Experts from various countries and representatives of Arab health ministries will take part in the three day-symposium, which is organised by the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO).



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Saturday addresses a seminar on asylum and refugee law (Petra photo)

Crown Prince calls for recognition of rights of stateless persons

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Saturday urged the international community to offer protection and justice to the Palestinian refugees and cited the Geneva Convention of 1949 as providing protection to all civilians under occupation rule.

"I would like to refer to the Palestinian refugee issue to remind the world of the fact that the refugees entitled to legal protection as their ordeal has become a serious problem, especially those refugees living under military rule in occupied Palestine," said Prince Hassan at the opening of a three-day seminar on asylum and refugee law.

"The refugee problem has become complicated by the Israeli denial of the application of the Fourth Geneva Convention,

which governs the protection of civilians during military occupation," Prince Hassan said.

"All of us for the past 72 hours have been watching with great emotional intensity the activities in Madrid in the concept of the peace conference," said Prince Hassan. "I would like to say that it was interesting to hear the U.S. Secretary of State in his closing statement referring to the need to humanise the regional issue. It is sad for me and millions others that the Arab-Israeli conflict or the Palestine-Israeli conflict has not been considered a conflict of

human dimension so far."

"It is important that we take full responsibility for the Arab-Israeli issue and in particular to bear in mind that the peace conference and the potential for a peace process is the potential for a bilateral dimension and a multilateral dimension," he said.

Prince Hassan referred to the U.N. agencies which have been helping the refugees and urged the U.N. organisation's various agencies, including the U.N. High Commission for Refugees, to offer assistance to the Palestinian refugees, especially those in the camps.

"I urge the U.N. agencies to coordinate and to speak one language in terms of rights and obligations of the victims of war," the Prince said.

"On the issue of humanitarian intervention, the most complex issue to be raised here is the right or even the duty of humanitarian intervention towards the attempted establishment of safe havens and I would like to make it clear that minimum humanitarian standards applicable to war victims, refugees and displaced persons should be respected in all circumstances, even if others are violating them," the Prince said.

Referring to the consequences of the Gulf crisis, Prince Hassan said that many of the Palestinians who left Kuwait and many of the Yemenis expelled from Saudi

Arabia were second or even third generation residents for whom the country of return was not home. Therefore, he said, it is misleading to use the term refugees, which seems to be more of a politicised media term.

Prince Hassan said everyone has the right to a nationality and no one shall be asked to be deprived of his nationality.

"I would like to remind you of the 1954 convention of the U.N. on the stateless persons which confirms minimum standards of treatment like access to security and the 1961 convention on the stateless which recommends that the stateless children should be granted the nationality of the state in which they were born," Prince Hassan said.

The meeting has been organised by the International Institute of Humanitarian Law (IIHL) in conjunction with the Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCs). The main goal of the seminar, the third of its kind, is to maintain and reinforce the dialogue among Arab experts who are involved on the national and international level in humanitarian issues, especially in the protection of refugees and displaced persons including the respect of the fundamental human rights of refugees.

At least 40 Arab experts in international and refugee law are taking part in the meetings.

Ministry reports surplus of JD 18.9 million, down from previous year

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Industry, Trade and Supply has reported surplus in income over its expenses in 1990 amounting to JD 18.9 million, down from JD 20.75 million in the previous year.

The ministry also reported that the decline was mainly due to the Gulf crisis, during which the national economy was severely affected.

A report released by the ministry said that the Kingdom suffers from a major trade balance deficit resulting from the devaluation of the dinar, despite an increase in the volume of exports by 5.1 per cent compared with 3.7 per cent in 1989.

In 1990, national exports amounted to JD 612 million while imports stood at JD 1.7 billion, according to the report.

Referring to the industrial sector, the report said that the Gulf

crisis dealt a crippling blow to the national industry, which mostly depended on Iraqi and Gulf states' markets. The industrial sector was also hurt by the difficulty in acquiring raw materials for the manufactured products due to the delay of such products arriving at Aqaba.

The report pointed out that 1990 witnessed a growth in the production of potash, cigarettes, textiles, leather, detergents, iron, petrochemicals, paper, carton and electric power. There was a decline in fertilisers, cement, metal pipes, batteries, phosphate and animal feed.

During 1990, the report noted, the ministry registered 451 new small and medium-size industrial firms with a total capital of JD 35.7 million.

Fears of Israeli attack grow

(Continued from page 1)

others injured.

"Israel is trying to displace the population in South Lebanon. This is an aggression," Sheikh Shamseddine said in a statement distributed by his office.

Nabil Berri, a cabinet minister without portfolio who also heads the mainstream Shiite Amal militia, called on the population to stay put despite the Israeli warning.

Mr. Berri and Parliament Deputy Abdul Latif Al Zein headed to Kfar Rumman, the first Shiite village to receive the threat, to urge the population to stay.

"Staying put is dangerous, but abandoning the villages is more dangerous," Mr. Berri said.

Mr. Zein, a native of Kfar Rumman, and Mr. Berri were joined in the village mosque by about 1,000 of the residents. The rest chose to flee.

"We'll stay here. We'll live here in dignity or die here in dignity," Mr. Zein told the villagers at the mosque, all of whom were elderly men.

Israel wants land without population. Our mere existence here defeats Israel and protects Lebanon," he added.

The pro-Iranian Hezbollah (Party of God), which has vowed to sabotage the Madrid peace

talks through attacks on Israel and its forces, has bases in Kfar Rumman.

Hizbullah and other pro-Iranian groups in Lebanon have vowed to fight a "holy war" against Israel.

engagement agreement in the occupied Golan Heights in 1974 through U.S. go-betweens.

A senior official of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), excluded from an overt role in peace talks because of Israeli objections, took part in an Arab coordination meeting on Friday evening, witnesses said.

The meetings will be "talks about talks." Apart from venue, they might also discuss the agenda and the timetable.

All except the Israel-Lebanon meeting will be first. Lebanon and Israel signed a formal agreement in May 1983 but it collapsed soon after.

Mr. Sharaa planned to return to Damascus late Saturday.

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agreement in the occupied Golan Heights in 1974 through U.S. go-betweens.

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Syria and Israel reached a dis-

European Community to review Jordan's need for foreign aid

BRUSSELS (J.T.) — Foreign Minister Kamel Abu Jaber arrived here Saturday to head Jordan's side to the meetings with the European Community's (EC) commission due to open here Monday.

Also arriving in the Belgian capital was Minister of Planning Ziyad Fariz, while Minister of Finance Basel Jardaneh is due there later Saturday.

The EC commission is expected to discuss financial aid to Jordan to help the country overcome its financial difficulties incurred during and after the Gulf crisis.

During the talks, Dr. Abu Jaber will meet with the foreign ministers of Britain, Italy, Portugal and Belgium as well as the Netherlands Foreign Minister Han van den Broek, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

The agency said that the ministers of finance and planning will discuss with the commission a number of topics related to EC-Jordanian relations.

Before leaving Amman for Brussels, Dr. Fariz said that the EC's Council of Cooperation will discuss Jordan's economic restructuring programme and prospects for EC countries to help Jordan implement its contribution to help Jordan cope with the present difficulties resulting from caring for the returnees.

According to the minister, the EC will discuss the implementation of its fourth Financial and Technical Protocol with Jordan signed last June. Under the protocol, Jordan will receive more than 126 million European Currency units



Ziyad Fariz

in aid to countries within the Mediterranean region currently trying to implement economic restructuring programmes, the agency quoted Dr. Fariz as saying.

The minister said he would raise the question of Jordanian returnees from the Gulf countries, the negative impact on Jordan's economy and prospects for EC countries to help Jordan cope with the present difficulties resulting from caring for the returnees.

According to the minister, the EC will discuss the implementation of its fourth Financial and Technical Protocol with Jordan signed last June. Under the protocol, Jordan will receive more than 126 million European Currency units

(\$138.6 million) to help boost the country's economic and agricultural sectors.

According to EC sources in Amman, water resources and management as well as support for private sector enterprises are also to benefit from the EC's fourth protocol.

About the third of the amount will be in outright grants and the rest in soft loans, according to the EC officials.

The EC is one of Jordan's biggest foreign aid donors. It has spent millions of dollars over the past few years on the improvement of Jordan's economy and has been among the few countries that extended aid to the Kingdom in the wake of Kuwait during the Gulf crisis.

U.N. studies estimate that Jordan will need \$3.14 billion over the next three years to absorb an estimated 300,000 people from the Gulf.

The government had previously estimated it would need to spend \$4.5 billion over the next five years.

Dr. Fariz was quoted by Petra as saying that he will discuss with the Europeans the prospect of selling Jordan's agricultural products in larger quantities in European markets.

New textbooks to be phased in gradually

AMMAN (J.T.) — A current programme implemented by the Ministry of Education to change school textbooks in Jordan within four years in light of recommendations and resolutions by the 1987 Educational Conference is expected to cost JD 11.2 million, according to Ibrahim Al Akash, the director to the ministry's Curricula and School Textbooks Department.

The process, which started in the beginning of the 1991-92 school year, will be implemented in stages in the private and public schools. The programme is to be funded through a loan to be provided by the World Bank, said

Mr. Akash in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

This year, Mr. Akash said students of the first, fifth and ninth grades are studying new textbooks.

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Myths and realities

MYTHS OF history are made everywhere, and the strongest are made by antagonists. They might never get corrected, but they should never be taken to mean absolute history, especially by leaders, intellectuals and statesmen. In his second address to the Madrid conference Friday, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir quoted the Israeli version of history when he charged that the 1948 Palestinian leader, Mufti Amin Hussein, "collaborated with the Nazis in the extermination of Jews during the Holocaust." That certainly is a myth.

The Madrid conference, however, is no myth. It is very possible that from now on, Arabs and Israelis could, instead of misinterpreting history, write it. Afterwards they could even re-write the past in a way fairer to both sides. The venue of the bilateral talks and the rhetoric of the last three days notwithstanding, both parties today sit face-to-face to discuss the making of peace. And that will not be an easy task, though the basic demands of both are legitimate. Basically, the Arabs want their land back and the Israelis want security. These are the two ingredients for peace. To move to that noble goal both Arabs and Israelis need to take confidence-building measures, and as U.S. Secretary of State James Baker has said: "A way must be found to send signals of peace and reconciliation that effect the peoples of the region."

Sure enough, Secretary Baker did not have in mind nor did he contemplate that Israel on Saturday would send confidence-wrecking signals by attacking South Lebanon and expelling Lebanese villagers. Nor was he thinking the Israeli troops would kill a 17-year-old in the occupied West Bank and place Gaza under curfew in return for Palestinians' distribution of olive branches.

Palestinian hostility for Israel, as demonstrated by the intifada daily, is not born out of an intrinsic hatred for the Jews; it is hostility towards an occupying army and a powerful state intent on destroying the very fabric of Palestinian society and identity. Lebanese fighters who attack Israel in the South are seeking to liberate their occupied lands. The Lebanese government and army pledged many times to guard Israel's northern borders once Israeli troops evacuated southern Lebanon.

The Arab parties to the conflict have long made clear to the whole world that they accept Israel and that they want to live with it in peace. They all went to Madrid on these bases as laid down in U.N. Security Council resolutions 242, 338 and 425.

Unless Israel withdraws from the occupied Arab territories there will be no peace. Meanwhile, unless Israel, the occupying power, scaled down its practices in the occupied territories, especially its settlement policies, the Arabs should not be expected to offer any more concessions.

The Israeli troops' practices in the occupied West Bank, Gaza Strip and South Lebanon are certainly no myths. They are being recorded very accurately by the U.S. State Department, Amnesty International, Middle East Watch and numerous human rights organisations. Unless this daily-written history comes to an end, peace will elude us for a long time.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

ISRAEL'S Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir was not only cornered and exposed for his government's illegal practices, but he also received two hard blows at the opening of the Madrid peace conference, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily Saturday. The paper said that the Soviet foreign minister told the conference clearly that U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 meant the exchange of land for peace and that there was no question about negotiating over these two resolutions. Another blow came from American Secretary of State James Baker who stressed the need to leave the past behind and look towards the future thus replying to Mr. Shamir's move to involve the conference in the events of history, said the paper. The two superpowers have both emphasised their determination to pursue efforts towards achieving peace although they would not impose their own terms on the parties, the paper said. It said that the European Community, represented at the peace conference, has also stressed that the different parties should adhere strictly to the requirements of the international legality. The Arabs, for their part, have called on the superpowers to see to it that the Jewish settlement programme be frozen, and the head of the Palestinian delegation Dr. Abdul Shafiq urged the world community to place the occupied lands under U.N. protection for a transitional period leading to independence, the paper pointed out. All the signs coming from the superpowers are good and encouraging, said the paper, but it remains to be seen whether they will respond favourably to the Arab countries' demands in a practical move to lay the foundation for a peaceful settlement.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Saturday expressed belief that the United States will not be satisfied by being a mere coordinator or onlooker at the Madrid peace conference, but rather it will go to the end and pursue all efforts to see to it that the conference, which it had initiated, would achieve fruitful results. Mahmoud Al Rihawi said that the U.S. Secretary of State James Baker has shown his displeasure at not seeing any real move to speed up the bilateral talks which will also lead to multilateral talks. The writer said that the U.S. secretary made it clear that the conference should achieve peace and should tackle the question of land and security through its different phases. Mr. Baker forced the Israelis to meet their Arab adversaries for the bilateral talks in Madrid thus thwarting Israel's attempt to render the conference void of its international character, said the writer. Washington holds the power over the parties and can force them to speed up the procedural matters and get down to real business, despite Mr. Baker's statement that progress has to be made by the parties themselves, said Rihawi. He said that now Washington has succeeded in bringing the warring parties together at the Madrid parley, it has no alternative but to pursue its efforts to end the conflict and pave the way for the birth of a new world order.

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Features

JORDAN TIMES, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1991 5

Syrian performance boosts morale

(Continued from page 1)

and nationalist context. Mustafa Hamarneh, a professor of history, believes that it was pure coincidence that the Syrian approach in Madrid was in line with the sentiment among the Arab masses.

"It is well known that the Syrians are very good in determining their priorities in terms of what is good and what is bad for them," said Dr. Hamarneh. "History has proved that Syrian priorities coincided as well as collided with pan-Arab national issues at times depending on what Damascus felt was its interests."

Dr. Hamarneh also points out that the issue at stake for Syria at this point in time was relatively insignificant when compared with Jordan and the Palestinians.

"Syria can afford to adopt a hard line position in Madrid," he said. "But Jordan or the Palestinians cannot do that simply because they have much more at stake and stand to lose much more than the Syrians," he pointed out.

"What Mr. Sharaa told the conference was exactly the Arab masses wanted to hear and rejoice," he said.

On the other hand, political science professor Nasser Tahboub argued that Syria, by virtue of its position as amplified in Madrid, "underlined the reality that no one can eclipse the Syrian role in inter-Arab and regional politics."

"Let no-one underestimate the role of Syria as one of the key players in the Levant," he said. "The structural changes in the international scene have created a number of pragmatic leaders in the region" who would otherwise have maintained their traditional role as rejectionists, he said.

PLO proposes Arab summit

(Continued from page 1)

late Friday to evaluate the first phase of the historic peace talks that opened Wednesday in Madrid.

PLO strategists are working out what line to adopt Sunday, when the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation meets for the first time alone with its Israeli counterpart. Executive Committee member Mahmoud Abbas earlier in the

day demanded that the United States pressure Israel to hold the second round of bilateral talks in Madrid.

"It's preferable that the negotiations continue in Madrid, or Washington, and not in the Middle East, where the dialogue would signify normalisation before the solution," Mr. Abbas said.

On the eve of his assassination

it was a diplomat who said in Madrid: The Americans and the Soviets are providing the music, the Arabs and Israelis are the dancers and Spain is providing the ballroom," recalled Jihan, a university student. "I would like to add: The Syrians have changed the tone of the music and now the steps of the players have to change too."

Now, at a time when we hope, most sincerely, for a successful outcome to the peace process which is about to start in a few days in Madrid, there is a chance that a new era will begin in the region and that finally a lasting peace will prevail.

I must, however, expand a little on the historical background in order to explain UNRWA's mission.

Over five million Palestinians,

some two million of whom have been living under military occupation since 1967, almost half of them registered as refugees, have been deprived of any opportunity for socio-economic development. Their only concern has been to survive.

On the eve of his assassination

he said: "I would like to add: The Syrians have changed the tone of the music and now the steps of the players have to change too."

It is not for me to suggest

solutions to the question of Palestine, but nevertheless cannot be denied that this problem continues to poison all hopes of international cooperation in the Eastern Mediterranean — the steppes of Europe.

A glimmer of hope has appeared on the horizon: the peace process launched by the United States through UNRWA; dispensaries, hospitals, schools, vocational training centres and income-generating programmes, are allowed to flourish in a political and territorial context permitting Palestinians to be the masters of their own destiny.

The international community

has made no mistake about it. This human capital deserved and continues to deserve to be supported.

I would like here to emphasize the importance that the Italian and EC contributions have for us. Over the past ten years, these contributions have progressively

been reduced to a minimum.

There lies the guarantee for a durable solution in the region.

Prospects of EC signing union treaty vanish

By Anders Wielberg-Stok Reuter

BRUSSELS — The 12 European Community states are bracing for a final round of haggling over political and monetary union, but some negotiators find it difficult to see how the more extreme positions can be reconciled.

It is now clear that when an EC summit in the Dutch town of Maastricht ends in six week's time, community leaders will have missed their own deadline to sign a treaty on a common foreign policy and a single currency.

Some of the most sensitive issues are still open after a year of often unpleasant negotiations, and officials say the question now is whether the summit will pro-

duce a political deal that can then be translated into a legal treaty.

"We will never be able to sign at Maastricht because some time will be needed after that to fine-tune the texts," said the ambassador of one member state in Brussels.

Although much of the bravado emanating from the 12 capitals on their different ambitions for Maastricht may be like the boastful threats of boxers before a fight, negotiators wonder if some of the more entrenched attitudes can be reconciled.

"Technically, it can be done," one senior negotiator said. "Politically, I wouldn't bet on it."

EC foreign ministers meeting in Brussels on Monday will spar again over two of the problem

issues — how to give the largely powerless European Parliament a greater say in community decisions and how to siphon more money from rich EC states into the coffers of poorer member countries.

Britain, always wary of ceding sovereignty to the EC, is not alone in its reluctance to involve the 518-seat parliament in new areas and allow it to overrule the executive European Commission and the council of member states in some cases.

But as the only state resisting the idea of a single EC currency, Britain is not swayed by Germany's warnings that Bonn will refuse to donate its valuable Deutschmark to form the backbone of an Economic and Monet-

ary Union (EMU) unless the parliament gains sweeping new powers.

Bonn's argument that this is necessary to ensure more direct democratic scrutiny of EC decisions is backed enthusiastically by many of the smaller states, which fear economic and political domination by the heavyweights.

Germany's backers include Spain, which is still demanding a special fund to systematically redistribute money from rich states to its economy and those of Ireland, Greece and Portugal.

Despite the recent reappearance of obstacles in the EMU talks, which only a few weeks ago appeared well on track, officials say the political union negotiations are the more difficult to

conclude at the Maastricht summit on December 9-10.

Mondays ministerial meeting will also illustrate another thorny patch — the creation of a more formal common foreign policy, with some issues possibly subject to majority voting and perhaps with an embryonic European army.

The ministers are due to agree on what the Netherlands, the bloc's current president, should do and say when it sits down as an observer in the EC's name at the Middle East peace conference in Madrid this week.

They will also take stock of developments at Yugoslav peace talks organised by the EC, with both sides in the treaty debate trying to back their arguments.

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Sports

Anand upsets Kasparov at Interpolis Chess Tournament

TILBURG, Netherlands (AP) — Indian grandmaster Viswanathan Anand and U.S. champion Gata Kamsky have made chess history.

The 21-year-old Anand upset world champion Garry Kasparov and 17-year-old Kamsky beat former world champion Anatoly Karpov in a spectacular 12th round at the 15th annual Interpolis Chess Tournament Friday.

The double defeat of the two Soviet "super Ks," whose rivalry has dominated world chess for the past decade, was afeat unparalleled in Chess competition.

Tournaments including both the world champion and his arch rival are rare and their conceding a game to third parties is even rarer.

But both losing against others in the same round is a record that should stand for years to come.

The slayer of the day was Anand, who got the better of Kasparov with white in a sparkling tactical duel that lasted just over three hours.

Playing white against the world champion's Sicilian defense, the fast-playing grandmaster from Madras introduced a theoretical novelty on his eighth, followed by a pawn sacrifice on his ninth, and trapped the black queen three moves later.

The U.S. champion played black from a Grunfeld-Indian defense and held a slight edge throughout. But with Karpov defending for what he was worth the outcome was long in the balance.



Viswanathan Anand

It went to Anand. With both sides fumbling in the ensuing battle, Kasparov made the decisive mistake on his 22nd fought on for seven more moves before resigning in a hopeless position.

"Vishy," as his fans call him, was elated. Earlier in the tournament, he had beaten Karpov to revenge a loss in a Brussels quarterfinal candidates' match, where he was knocked out of the race for the upcoming world championship.

"My only problem is that I beat these guys at the wrong moment," he told reporters. "I should have won against Karpov in Brussels and defeating Kasparov here in Tilburg will not win me the world title."

It may win him the tournament, though. With just two more rounds to go in the double round-robin event, he would pull alongside Kasparov in first place if he wins the favourable ending he held with black against Kamsky in a game adjourned in the previous round.

In contrast to Vishy's speedy win, Kamsky's victory over Karpov came after a drawn-out positional fight that lasted for almost six hours of endless manoeuvring and few tactical niceties.

The U.S. champion played black from a Grunfeld-Indian defense and held a slight edge throughout. But with Karpov defending for what he was worth the outcome was long in the balance.

AMMAN LITTLE LEAGUE

Soccer matches held Friday, Oct. 1, 1991

TOTS	(1)	Vs	Pirelli	(0)
Vita	(2)	Vs	Philadelphia	(0)

JUNIORS	(1)	Vs	Aqaba Shipping	(0)
Al Hilka	(1)	Vs	GEMT	(0)
Union Bank	(1)	Vs	Epson	(0)
Foxboro	(2)	Vs	Soudani	(0)
UPS	(2)	Vs		

MIDS	(4)	Vs	AICI	(1)
Tramec	(2)	Vs	Volvo	(0)
Istiklal	(2)	Vs		
SENIORS	(2)	Vs	Int. Traders	(1)
Lois	(2)	Vs	Nash/Ebb	(1)
Chilli House	(2)	Vs		

Soccer Cup match held Saturday Nov. 2, 1991

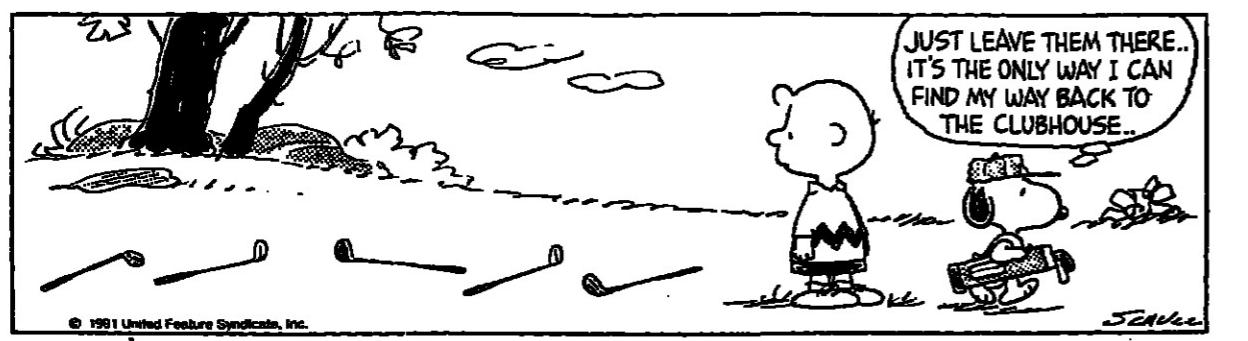
Junior-semi finals

UPS	(1)	Vs	Foxboro	(0)
Cup finals and closing ceremony Friday Nov. 8, 1991				

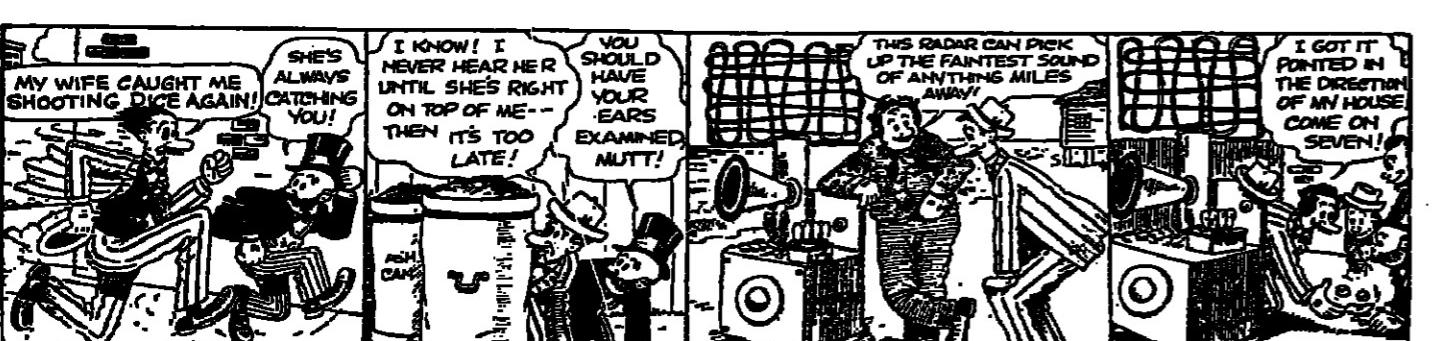
Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt'n'Jeff



Senna takes 60th pole at Australian GP

ADELAIDE, Australia (R) — Brazilian Ayrton Senna extended his record total of pole positions to 60 Saturday when he dominated a rain-affected final qualifying session for Sunday's Australian Grand Prix motor race.

Driving a McLaren, Senna clocked a flying lap of one minute and 14.041 seconds with only two minutes of the hour-long session remaining.

Drizzle added to the problems of the bumpy and dirty track surface but Senna made light of the conditions.

The time assured with newly-crowned triple world champion, of the 60th prime grid position of his career and his seventh of the 1991 season.

Senna will share the front row of the grid for the final race of the season with his McLaren teammate Austrian Gerhard Berger, who was unable to improve his time Saturday.

British Nigel Mansell in a Williams and his team-mate Italian Riccardo Patrese will share the second row, both having failed to improve on their opening qualifying times set in Friday's session in dry conditions.

The two Benetton drivers Nelson Piquet of Brazil and his young German team-mate Michael Schumacher ended up fifth and sixth fastest overall.

They will share the third row of the grid ahead of the two Ferraris driven by Frenchman Jean Alesi and his new Italian team-mate Gianni Morbidelli.

Bright sunshine broke through the clouds shortly after the session, drying out the circuit.

Senna, who had spun his car and blown an engine during the morning free practice, said he felt very proud of his pole.

"This is very special because it was the last qualifying session of the year and it is fantastic for me to have scored the 60th pole position," he said.

Frenchman Bertrand Gachot, released from prison in England only two weeks ago, was unable to qualify.

Frenchman Alain Prost.

At the other end of the grid, there was a furious battle to avoid failing to qualify.

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Economy

Russian parliament gives Yeltsin powers to implement radical reforms

MOSCOW (AP) — Russian lawmakers Friday overwhelmingly approved President Boris Yeltsin's demand to implement radical reforms in the most powerful Soviet republic, including abolishing price controls on nearly all goods.

The 876-16 vote by Russia's parliament came as Mr. Yeltsin formally cut off funding to at least 70 Soviet ministries based on Russian soil in a

move to cut the costly and inefficient national bureaucracy.

The decision to cut funding to the Soviet ministries, not including defence, railroad and nuclear energy, could shut down much of the Moscow-based central government, which has repeatedly backed away from economic reforms.

The funding cuts were announced by Mr. Yeltsin af-

ter the Oct. 18 signing of an economic treaty by eight republics, including Russia.

The Russian Congress of People's Deputies, or parliament, also approved Mr. Yeltsin's demand for increased political powers to implement the reforms.

Winning approval too was a measure to give Mr. Yeltsin and the republic's standing legislature, the Supreme Soviet, the right to override national laws that hinder eco-

nomic reform.

Mr. Yeltsin has staked his political future on a plan of radical economic change that Russian and Soviet officials have discussed since the beginning of Mikhail Gorbachev's perestroika reforms, but never carried out.

The measure on Mr. Yeltsin's additional powers gives him the ability to reorganise all levels of executive power and freeze most local elections until Dec. 3, 1992.

Mr. Yeltsin's plan would free prices by year's end on nearly all goods; cut nearly all subsidies to state-run industries and gradually privatise them; shift funding to social welfare programmes; allow the private sale of land and buy \$100 million in urgently needed farm equipment.

Mr. Yeltsin said Thursday the prices for certain basic goods including milk, bread, food, salt, gasoline, coal and even vodka — would still be regulated by the government, the TASS news agency reported.

The measure on Mr. Yeltsin's additional powers gives him the ability to reorganise all levels of executive power and freeze most local elections until Dec. 3, 1992.

Bush urges Americans to buy houses, cars to spur economy

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President George Bush is trying to put a good face on grim economic news by urging Americans to go out and buy a new home or car to get the sluggish economy perking again.

"Some of the liberal Democrats that control this Congress think the only chance they have to defeat me is to talk this country into hard times," Mr. Bush charged in an interview Friday with Houston television station KHOU.

"The lack of consumer confidence worries me, because if they hear all this bad news all the time, people are going to get gloomy about it," said Mr. Bush. "It's a good time to buy a house. It's a good time to buy a car."

Mr. Bush targeted his Democratic critics in Congress, singling out Senate majority leader George Mitchell, for the sharpest jabs.

The president charged Mr. Mitchell was trying to force him to veto a jobless benefits bill again for "demagogic" purposes.

"If he sends me down a bill that's going to bust the budget agreement, I'm going to veto it and send it right back," said Mr. Bush. "He is not going to dash it out and then be unable to take it."

"I refuse to catch his javelins anymore," Mr. Bush said.

He bluntly urged the Federal Reserve Friday to lower interest rates to boost the recovery, which Mr. Bush insisted was under way despite Friday's rise in the unemployment rate to 6.8 per cent and the first decline in eight months in the index of leading economic indicators.

"I don't want to be a rosy

scenario man," said Mr. Bush. But he said the gross national product grew 2.4 per cent in the third quarter and the jobless rate is "substantially lower than it was in the heights of the last recession."

He predicted the economy will be "driving factor" in the 1992 election.

Mr. Bush was basking in 90 per cent approval ratings earlier this year after the Gulf war. But his ratings have tumbled as the economy sputtered and Democrats charged he was spending too much time abroad and neglecting problems at home.

The United States got more bad news on its sluggish economy Friday as the government said unemployment had risen and the longer-term outlook showed no sign of improvement.

The bleak reports fuelled speculation that the Federal Reserve (Fed), the central bank, may be forced to cut interest rates again, possibly early next week, to give the stalled economy a kick to get it moving out of recession.

The jobless rate rose to 6.8 per cent in October from 6.7 per cent while payrolls unexpectedly fell, the Labour Department said in the government's first report of how the economy performed last month.

The Commerce Department's index of leading indicators, designed to forecast economic activity about six months into the future, slipped by 0.1 per cent in September after being unchanged in August. It was the first decline since the index fell 0.6 per cent in January.

The Fed's policy-making open market committee is scheduled to meet Tuesday to discuss the eco-

nomy and interest rates.

The Fed has already cut the rate it charges member banks for loans four times since December.

Many economists had expected the Fed to cut the rate a half-point on Friday morning in response to the economic data, and now looked for a rate cut early next week.

"As far as the Fed is concerned, the handwriting is on the wall," said Ward McCarthy of Stone McCarthy Research Associates Inc.

Southwest Bank of St. Louis, often a rate trendsetter, trimmed the prime rate charged on loans to its best customers to 7.75 per cent from eight per cent. Major banks were expected to wait for a clear signal from the Fed before trimming their rates.

While the increase in the jobless rate had been expected, economists were surprised the number of jobs outside the farm sector fell by 1,000 instead of rising by 20,000 as had been anticipated. The Labour Department did say, however, that 48,000 jobs were added to payrolls in September rather than the 4,000 previously reported.

"The October labour market indicators show continued weakness in the demand for workers," said Janet Norwood, commissioner of the Bureau of Labour Statistics. "The nation's jobless rate, at 6.8 per cent, has essentially been in a holding pattern since March."

Edward McElveen, senior economist at Goldman, Sachs Co. Inc., said the reports "raise considerable questions about the durability of the recovery."

While the data do not indicate the economy is slipping back into

recession, "they certainly suggest the initial phase of the recovery failed to generate the kind of job growth that makes recoveries go forward," he said.

Many analysts were worried by signs that manufacturing, which had been one of the few bright spots in the economy, lost 32,000 jobs in October after losing 31,000 in September.

The poor labour market has weighed heavily on consumers, whose confidence has slipped dramatically in recent weeks.

The expectation of lower interest rates sent the dollar lower, while treasury bond prices rallied. But traders said a rate cut already had been built into stock prices, which recovered earlier losses.

The central bank acted last week to lower the federal funds rate, which banks charge each other for loans. The rate slipped to nearly five per cent from its target level of 5.25 per cent.

In other reports, the Commerce Department said new home sales fell by 12.9 per cent last month to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 446,000 units, the biggest monthly decline in a 13.2 per cent decline in February.

The department also sharply revised downwards its estimate on August new home sales. Instead of robust gain of 6.7 per cent, sales were up just 1.8 per cent.

The Commerce Department also said consumer incomes rose by 0.5 per cent in September after a 0.4 per cent August gain. Spending by consumers went up a relatively sturdy 0.9 per cent after an anaemic 0.1 per cent August improvement.

Japanese current account surplus continues to grow

TOKYO (R) — Japan's runaway current account surplus continued to gain steam in September, nearly doubling from the same month a year ago as imports slumped.

The nation's unadjusted current account surplus widened to \$8.83 billion from \$4.63 billion a year earlier, the finance ministry (MOF) said Friday.

"The surplus is going to continue to grow, but not because of exports," said Paul Summerville, economist at Jardine Fleming Securities Ltd in Tokyo. "We are seeing a collapse of import growth."

Despite predictions by many economists to the contrary, a MOF official tried to play down the politically sensitive numbers, telling reporters he did not believe the recent expansion in Japan's current account surplus would continue.

"We don't think Japan's current account surplus has structurally been on an uptrend," he told reporters.

The merchandise trade surplus was largely responsible for the gain, climbing to \$10.95 billion from \$7.77 billion in September 1990, with economists laying the blame squarely on weak import growth.

Imports sagged to \$16.04 billion for the month against \$17.39 in September 1990.

While softer economic conditions have stunted demand for

luxury goods such as European automobiles and art work, several one-off factors weighed heavily on the data.

In September 1990, oil prices climbed in the lead up to the Gulf war and gold imports were unusually high because many securities houses had set up gold-investment funds. Both sent imports up sharply, making this year's look small in comparison.

Kazuko Mizuno, economist at Baring Securities (Japan) Ltd, said that as much as 90 per cent of the cause behind the weaker imports can be attributed to distortions of a year ago.

As the full impact of Japan's slowing economy continues to feed through into the trade figures, however, imports will remain on weak footing, Mr. Mizuno added.

On the other side of the trade equation, recent robust exports which have drawn criticism from Japan's trading partners, climbed to \$26.99 billion from \$25.16 billion a year earlier.

Economists attributed the slow growth to weak demand in Asia and Europe — two areas that had recently shown a healthy appetite for Japanese goods.

Asian economies are slowing down because of the recession in the United States.

In Europe, meanwhile, economies have also been slowed by high German interest rates, economists said.

Allied-Lyons, Carlsberg to combine operations in Britain next year

LONDON (AP) — Allied-Lyons PLC and Denmark's Carlsberg A.S. are to merge their British brewing operations into a joint venture company.

The 50-50 venture will be called Carlsberg-Tetley PLC and begin operating in March with 5,000 employees, both companies have said.

Analysts said the combination would have 18 per cent of the British beer market, with Allied-Lyons representing 14 per cent. The deal requires the approval of the Office of Fair Trading.

Allied-Lyons said the venture company would have a strong range of brands, including its own Skol, Lowenbrau, Tetley Bitter, Castlemaine XXXX and Burton Draught. The Danish company is bringing its Carlsberg and Tuborg lagers to the venture.

The joint venture will supply Allied-Lyons 6,000 pubs, Allied-Lyons said.

Allied-Lyons will contribute net assets of £265 million (\$458 million), and Carlsberg net assets of £245 million (\$421 million), Allied-Lyons said.

Operating profits of the interests, being contributed by Allied-Lyons to the venture totalled £8 million (\$100 million) in the year to March 2, while operating profits of the interests being contributed by Carlsberg to the venture totalled £44 million (\$76 million) in the year to Sept. 30.

The company declined to provide sales figures.

Institutes forecast upturn for eastern Germany next year

BONN (R) — East Germany's economy has turned the corner and will stage a strong recovery next year, five leading research institutes and the German central bank have said.

"The driving forces for a self-supported growth process are still lacking. Too many activities are being stimulated by state funding, too many companies... are not finding their way to competitiveness and too many wage demands are being met which exceed the productivity levels of the east German economy," he noted.

The steep decline of the east German economy appears to have stopped," the institutes wrote in their annual autumn report on the economy.

"So far, unification has not overburdened the German economy but it could still do so," said Willi Leibfritz of the Munich-based IFO Institutes as he presented the report.

The two Germanys merged their economies in July 1990, abruptly posing east Germany's antiquated state firms to cutthroat competition on world markets.

The institutes forecast that the economy of the former communist state would expand by 12 per cent in 1992 after shrinking by 19.5 per cent this year and 13.4 per cent in 1990.

They expected west Germany's gross national product (GNP) to expand by a real 3.5 per cent in 1991 after 4.5 per cent in 1990, with growth slowing to two per cent in 1992.

The institutes expected the cost of living in east Germany to surge 12 per cent both 1991 and 1992 after a decline of 2.7 per cent in 1990.

SYDNEY (R) — Rupert Murdoch's News Corporation has unveiled plans to raise \$62 million dollars (\$536.7 million) to cut debt through a float of its Australian printing and magazine business and a new loan.

News Corporation said it would float 55 per cent of the new company, to be called Pacific Magazines and Printing Ltd, to raise \$32 million dollars (\$300.6 million).

The international media group, which has to pay back a \$600 million bridging loan by February, will raise a further 300 million dollars (\$236 million) through a loan for Pacific.

It is the second major fundraising exercise by News Corporation, whose debts totalled 10.7 billion dollars (\$8.4 billion) on June 30. Last month it announced a \$175 million share placement.

The shares will be offered first to Australian shareholders only. In February News Corp secured an \$8.2 billion debt restructuring, including a \$600 million bridging loan which is due for repayment in February.

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east) everyone has been waiting for," Mr. Leibfritz said.

"We never ask where the parts come from," Mr. Leibfritz says with a snicker. "We only sell them."

Shortages are a fact of life throughout the Soviet Union. There are ingenious ways around them and even ways to make them profitable. Some say the need for improvisation is especially great now in Georgia, one of four Soviet republics that refused to sign a new economic treaty.

Georgia can't get enough auto parts, gasoline, heating oil and a lot of other things. Demand is high. So is theft.

Finding a shock absorber (or a transmission is one of the hardest things to do." Mr. Leibfritz said last week. "Keeping them on your car is also difficult."

Eight republics signed the economic treaty on Oct. 18. The accord is designed to ensure they keep supplying each other with necessary goods, and its signers have threatened to reduce trade ties with republics that didn't sign.

Georgia's Prime Minister Vassilios Gugushvili says that may already be happening. Shipments of refined petroleum products, which mostly come from Russia, have plunged, he said in a recent interview.

"We have not received one gallon, one drop of oil from Russia under existing agreements in the past week," he said. "A ship that was bound for the port of Batumi suddenly turned around."

Some Soviets say Georgia, one of the most fiercely independence-minded republics, has only itself to blame. Last

month, the TASS news agency said Mr. Gugushvili ordered a ban on food, industrial goods and construction materials to other republics.

Mr. Gugushvili, however, insisted Georgia was keeping its commitments.

Whatever the reason, while Georgia tries to go its own way politically and economically, citizens are having trouble just getting around.

"It takes twice as long for a bus to come," said Giia Amiranashvili, 29, a lampshade maker who stood waiting for a bus with two dozen other people.

That's because half the buses are usually idle because of the gas shortage, said Alex Tavtavazishvili, the transportation ministry's economy chief.

He said the oil shortage could pose problems as demand increases at oil-fired electricity plants in Georgia this winter.

A slowdown in building materials from Russia also has halted reconstruction of thousands of homes damaged in the April 29 earthquake in Georgia that killed at least 114 people, Mr. Tavtavazishvili said.

Gas, cars and auto can be purchased, he said, but only at higher commercial rates, as opposed to the lower prices the republics charged each other before they began considering themselves separate countries.

But in some cases the shortages have produced booming alternative businesses. Many people get their gas from gypsy trucks who load up in Russia and become mobile filling stations in Tbilisi.

Recently, four tankers parked on a dusty lot serviced a stream of motorists, not only filling their tanks but canisters in their trunks. As a result, rear-end collisions here can be lethal.

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Yeltsin says Russia can join world with new constitution

MOSCOW (R) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin said Saturday a new draft constitution for his republic would free Russia of ideology and enable it to become a full-fledged member of the world community.

Presenting the constitution to Russia's supreme legislature, Mr. Yeltsin said the document sought for the first time in seven decades of Soviet history to give priority to the individual and to human rights.

The draft contains secure legal guarantees against totalitarianism, against supremacy of ideology and against violence being a state ideology," he told nearly 1,000 deputies in the Kremlin.

"A constitution adopted by a totalitarian society cannot be a basis for a new society. Adoption of the new constitution would enable Russia to join the world community as an equal."

Mr. Yeltsin was addressing the Congress of People's Deputies at the close of a week-long session which approved his radical plan to introduce a market economy and granted him vast powers to sweep away conservative opposition to it.

He views the new constitution as the centrepiece of his battle to ensure that Communist values discredited after last August's failed hardline coup against President Mikhail Gorbachev do not come to dominate Soviet society again.

The Communist Party, since suspended or banned throughout much of the country, remains legal and active in the Russian Parliament and Mr. Yeltsin can expect considerable opposition to the reforms.

The Russian leader, hero of resistance to the coup, said adoption of the constitution was vital to his radical reforms, brought in

after he was accused of inaction in the weeks following the collapse of the plot.

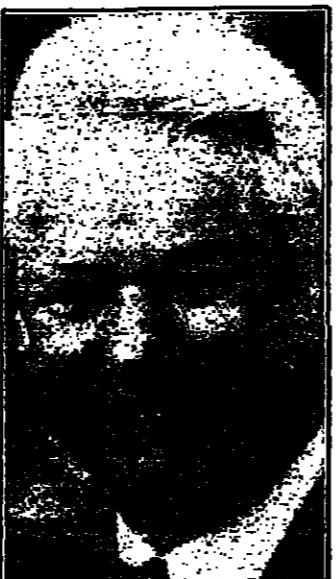
"For the first time, a Russian constitution does not make an individual subject to the state," he said.

"Neither the Communist Party, nor the nation, nor any other party, but rather the individual himself is the supreme value. Observance of human rights is the main task of the state."

He suggested the constitution could be put to a republican referendum, the easiest way of parrying opposition to its provisions.

Some speakers in the chamber immediately spoke out against the document, which is subject to parliamentary revision.

"The draft is absolutely unacceptable from both a conceptual and moral standpoint," one deputy said.



Boris Yeltsin

Russia 'ready to deport' Honecker

HAMBURG (R) — Russia is prepared to deport former East German Communist leader Erich Honecker if Bonn applies for his return to face trial, the Soviet republic's justice minister said.

Nicolai Fyodorov told the Bild newspaper that if Bonn applied to Russia for Mr. Honecker's return, the republic would begin the process of extradition.

"The core of the matter is that Honecker will be sent back there, since he was illegally brought here," Mr. Fyodorov was quoted as saying.

Mr. Honecker, wanted in Germany on manslaughter charges arising from shoot-to-kill orders to guards at the Berlin Wall, was spirited out of eastern Germany this year and taken to Moscow for medical treatment.

"His transportation out of the

former east Germany severely upset Germany's legal system. His entry (into Russia) was illegal."

Mr. Fyodorov was quoted as saying in remarks to be published in Saturday's edition of Bild. "He must be removed from the territory of sovereign Russia," the minister said.

Asked what the republic would do if Mr. Honecker refused to return voluntarily to Germany, Mr. Fyodorov said:

"If he doesn't agree with his repatriation, we will approach the relevant legal organs to deport him — in other words the Interior Ministry and the KGB."

The comments appeared to be an about-face from last week, when Mr. Fyodorov denied reports Russia was planning to extradite Honecker to Germany, bypassing the Soviet Justice

Ministry.

German Justice Minister Klaus Kinkel said after a visit to Moscow last week Soviet authorities had shown understanding for Bonn's argument that 79-year-old Honecker should be returned. But he received no assurance of cooperation.

Mr. Honecker, East German leader for almost two decades until forced to resign by popular protests in October 1989, said in a television interview last month he was willing to return only if authorities dropped all charges against him.

In the Bild interview, Mr. Fyodorov stressed that although there was no extradition treaty between Bonn and Moscow, the Germans should make a legal application to Russia.

Vietnam, U.S. discuss MIA issue

BANGKOK (AP) — Vietnamese and U.S. experts have met to discuss ways of speeding the accounting of Americans missing from the Vietnam War, the official Voice of Vietnam radio said Saturday.

It said the two sides met Wednesday and Friday in Hanoi and discussed ways to implement an Oct. 2 agreement between Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam and Gen. John W. Vessey, a special U.S. presidential envoy.

The broadcast said the talks were frank and "yielded positive results," but did not say if they agreed on any specific ways to speed up the search for some 1,600 Americans listed as missing in action or MIA in Vietnam.

Croatian Radio said MiG fighters bombed and rocketed Osijek, 50 kilometre south of the Hungarian border, as well as the town of Grabusno Polje and a nearby village.

Heavy fighting was also reported in Vukovar, a Danube River town where 15,000 Croats have been holding out against an army siege for more than two months.

After a week-long truce in Dubrovnik the army told civilians on Friday to stay away from Croatian militia positions, saying its new policy was to return fire from the city vigorously.

"We advise people to avoid areas from which militiamen are shooting at the army because we will reply fiercely. Only the old town will be spared," Colonel Lukic, an army spokesman, told a news conference in nearby Trebinje.

Croatia, a predominantly Roman Catholic republic of 4.5 million people, declared itself independent from Yugoslavia on June 25.

That sparked an uprising by the republic's 600,000 Orthodox Serbs, who have been backed by the Serbian-led army in fighting which has left more than 2,500 dead since June.

World attention has focused on Dubrovnik because of its beautiful mediaeval and renaissance walled centre which has made it a favourite attraction for foreign tourists.

The United States, Britain, France, Italy and the United Nations criticise the army last week for a campaign that has caused widespread damage to surrounding villages and woodlands.

While the army appeared determined to carry out its vow to Disarm Croatian rebels in Dubrovnik, the government of Serbia was debating whether to accept a European Community ultimatum.

Expectations were heightened when Washington announced it would begin high-level normalization talks with Vietnam this month.

Fighting flares again around Dubrovnik

DUBROVNIK, Yugoslavia (R) — The Yugoslav army and Croatian rebels, fighting for the medieval tourist port of Dubrovnik, battled with machineguns around the city's outskirts Saturday.

Sporadic gunfire could be heard in towns and villages about a kilometre from the city centre during the morning and in the hills overlooking the besieged port.

The shooting followed renewed heavy shelling by the army and navy Friday, pounding Croatian militia positions around the residential districts of Gruz and Lapad.

The luxury Hotel Palas, on the tip of the Lapad peninsula a kilometre from the old town centre, was hit five times by artillery from land and sea.

A woman and four children were killed in a car crash when they tried to flee the army shelling Friday.

Hours earlier, Mr. Kaunda had conceded defeat in a graceful broadcast in which he also said he intended to continue working in the opposition.

Kaunda's defeat by an overwhelming margin in Thursday's presidential and parliamentary elections marked the first time a top African statesman had been ousted by popular vote — and departed gracefully.

"True to my word, I would like to congratulate President Frederick Chiluba sincerely," Mr. Kaunda told the country in a broadcast about two hours before the 48-year-old trade union leader was to be sworn in.

Thousands of jubilant Zambians flashing the thumb-and-index sign of Chiluba's Movement for Multi-Party Democracy (MMD) converged on the high court for the swearing-in ceremony.

Mr. Kaunda, 67, and his United National Independence Party (UNIP) had held uninterrupted power since independence from Britain in 1964. Mr. Kaunda beat overhwelming popular demand late last year to end 17 years of single-party rule, opening the way for Mr. Chiluba's landslide victory.

With vote counting still under way, UNIP had won only a handful of places in the 150-seat parliament, while Mr. Chiluba's

Marxist states that plan to hold multi-party elections next year, attended as observers.

Chiluba sworn in as new Zambia president



Kenneth Kaunda

poll was even greater.

"As I leave state house to leave for my farm (in northern province) ... I would like to thank all Zambians who made it possible for me to serve them in many capacities before and after independence," he said. "There is no longer any excuse for owners and shareholders to be unaware of the potential (harm) their developments will cause if they do not specify in advance that the design must incorporate cleaner technology."

"I tried to do my best for Zambia and if I failed in any way it is not because I did not try to do my utmost for the people of the nation," he said.

"This election demonstrates the nature of multi-party politics: You win some and you lose some. This is not the end of the world."

He added that "in a few days I shall return and with my people will begin to look at strategy and prepare to be the opposition."

Mr. Kaunda leaves a considerable legacy of problems. Zambia is virtually bankrupt with a foreign debt of \$7.8 billion hanging over its 7.8 million people.

Mr. Chiluba and his government face tough and unpopular decisions to get the economy on track and win the confidence of the international donor community.

The new president, at a late night news conference Friday in which he announced Mr. Kaunda had conceded, called on Zambians to respect their defeated leader.

"He is the founding father of our nation and he must remain in our hearts ... he has a place and we must ensure nothing is done to harass him, he is one of us ... he must feel he is a Zambian among Zambians."

Both Mr. Kaunda and Mr. Chiluba said the Zambian elections and the peaceful transition of power could act as a model for other Third World nations moving to political pluralism.

Officials from neighbouring Angola and Mozambique, former Marxist states that plan to hold multi-party elections next year, attended as observers.

Burmese Nobel laureate ill after hunger strike

BANGKOK (R) — An exiled Burmese opposition group said Saturday that Nobel Peace prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi was critically ill in Rangoon after going on hunger strike.

There has been no untoward activity around her house. There has been no such story going around in Rangoon."

Mrs. Aung San Suu Kyi has been under house arrest since

1989. The opposition National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma said in a statement it was concerned about the condition of the detained opposition leader since she began a fast eight days ago.

It said Mrs. Aung San Suu Kyi, 46, had stopped eating after the Burmese military government refused to let her see a visiting United Nations human rights team last month.

Diplomats in Rangoon, said they were extremely sceptical about the report of the hunger strike.

"She started the hunger strike earlier this year, before the prize was awarded."

Dr. Lundestad said she had learned of the Nobel award and was delighted by the news but concerned by the harsh conditions of her isolation and by the situation on her country.

Ancient coins unearthed in Hong Kong

HONG KONG (R) — Hong Kong workmen excavating a site for a new yacht club have unearthed thousands of ancient Chinese coins up to 1,400 years old, the South China Morning Post newspaper said Saturday.

It said a workman's pick pierced a clay pot filled with some 2,400 coins, believed to be the biggest cache found in the British colony.

The third received five strokes and five years in jail. Public floggings are carried out occasionally in Pakistan's tribal areas, but this was the first since the mid-1980s in the settled parts of the country.

The crowd chanted Allah-O-Akbar when the first stroke of the long cane came down on one of the men, witnesses said. The right arm of the man who carried out the punishment was tied at the elbow to restrict his arm movement as prescribed under Islamic injunctions, jail authorities said. "All of them (convicts) walked up to the jail bar after being flogged," one official said.

Cash-strapped Irish Army shout 'bang' on exercise

DUBLIN (R) — The Irish army's budget is so low that reserve soldiers have to shout "bang bang" on exercises because they have no live ammunition, an opposition deputy told parliament.

He said he had come back to prepare for the burial of his father, whose remains have been kept in a refrigerated crypt in Honolulu, Hawaii, since he died in 1989.

In Ilocos Norte, supporters waved small red, white and blue flags of the late president's New Society Movement (KLD) political party, which was decimated when Corazon Aquino was swept to power in the bloodless 1986 revolution.

Mr. Marcos said it was time for Filipinos to bury the legacy of his father's rule and start afresh.

He flew Friday to his father's hometown of Batangas where he kissed the coffin of his grandmother as the people hailed him as the future head of state.

Now the judge can set the date for his trial and arraignment, Mr. Coronel stated.

"What a waste that is," he said.

He was fingerprinted and released on bail of 50,000 pesos (\$1,500) after signing his arrest warrant at Camp Crame Police Headquarters.

"We heard they were intending to arrest him within 48 hours, so I accompanied him to the (police) and he voluntarily surrendered," Mr. Coronel told reporters.

"I am very happy, I love it," the younger Marcos said during a break in his tour which resembled a campaign for a seat in the Philippine Congress.

He did not say if he would run for office in general elections set for May 1992, but said he would

consult his late father's

Marcos' son arrested in Philippines, posts bail

MANILA (R) — The son of ousted Philippine dictator Ferdinand Marcos was arrested briefly on charges of tax evasion Saturday, but was later released after posting bail, his lawyer said.

Lawyer Antonio Coronel said Ferdinand Marcos Jr., the first member of the Marcos family to return after almost six years in exile, voluntarily gave himself up to police, and was detained for about one hour.

Mr. Marcos flew back to the Philippines on Thursday from Singapore, ahead of the scheduled arrival of the ex-president's widow, Imelda Marcos Monday.

"We heard they were intending to arrest him within 48 hours, so I accompanied him to the (police) and he voluntarily surrendered," Mr. Coronel told reporters.

He was fingerprinted and released on bail of 50,000 pesos (\$1,500) after signing his arrest warrant at Camp Crame Police Headquarters.

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